



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

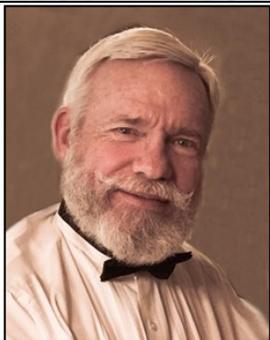
THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2017

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH



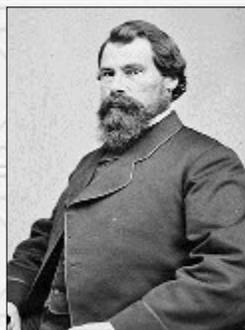
Compatriots, I want to thank Richard for furnishing the meal at this month's meeting. Also thanks to Gary for presenting the program. Hopefully, I will be back for the rest of the year starting with the April meeting. I have missed seeing everyone, feasting on great food and hearing the interesting programs. I don't know about other camps, but I do know that our camp has had some pretty darn good programs presented since I have been a member!!

In addition to my recently completed powerpoint program on Calvin Columbus Castle – Confederate Spy, I have started researching a program to present at a later date on the Confederate Horses of the Civil War. Being a horse lover and at one time, raising and breeding such animals, I am interested in anything horses! Of course no program dealing with Confederate Horses would not be complete without mentioning the most famous horse of all –

TRAVELLER !!!!!

Traveller was born in 1857 and named Jeff Davis after the soon to be President of the Confederate States of America. He was purchased by General Lee for \$200 in 1861 added to the stable of horses Lee was using during the war. Very quickly Traveller became Lee's favorite and was known for being able to carry the General at 5 -6 miles per hour for up to 20 miles each day. Lee remarked that due to this 16 hand high horse's great stamina and ability to cover great distances, that he renamed his horse from Jeff Davis to Traveller. After the war Traveller settled into retirement with Lee and upon his death, followed behind Lee's coffin with his head bowed as if he knew that he had lost his rider and great companion! Traveller did not grieve long as the following year, in 1871, he stepped on a nail and upon becoming lame was found to have developed Tetanus and had to be put down.

I will tell you more about Traveller and other horses used by some of our greatest and famous officers of the Confederacy. I encourage each of you to pick a civil war era subject that you have a interest in, do your research and then contact Gary to arrange a



John H. Reagan

About 1863

Oct 8, 1818 – March 6, 1905

Post Master General of the Confederate States of America

Secretary of the Treasury CSA

U. S. Senator from Texas

U. S. Rep. from Texas

District Judge

Texas State Representative

First Chairman - Railroad

Commission of Texas

A Founder and President of the Texas State Historical Association

time to present it to the rest of the Camp. The talent in our Camp is remarkable and there are many interesting stories to be told of our gallant cause during the War of Northern Aggression. Sometimes it feels that it is still being fought. No, it IS STILL BEING FOUGHT! Every day we have to defend our heritage and I am willing to take on the fight! Join me in correcting those less informed about why the war was fought. We can do no less!!

Till next month, Deo Vindice!

CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of Each Month  
06:30 PM

Snacks and drinks served at each meeting.

First Christian Church  
113 East Crawford Street  
Palestine, Texas

Turn north on N. Sycamore St. off of Spring St. (Hwy 19, 84, & 287) (across from UP train station) travel three blocks, turn right on Crawford St., go one block Church is on left

Guests are welcome!  
Bring the family.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Commander's Dispatch	1
Prayer List/Cal of Events	2
Eisenhower Letter	3
March meeting pics	4
Gary Williams History Program for March	5-7
Portraits of Conflict by Andrew Harris	8-9
March R. E. Lee Calendar	10
Tx Civ. War History in March	11
CSA General Henry Eustace McCulloch	12-14
Tx Div Chaplain's Article	15
Confederate Plaza Info	16
Reagan Camp Contacts	17

### Prayer List

- Past Chaplain Ed Furman
- Past Cmdr. Ronnie Hatfield
- Past Chaplain Rod Skelton & his wife, Nancy
- Past 1st Lt. Gary Williams
- Past Davis/Reagan UDC Pres. Dollye Jeffus
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America
- The Sons of Confederate Veterans

To the right is a picture of Stephen D. Lee 's statue that is located in the Vicksburg Military Battlefield in Vicksburg, Miss. If you have never been through it, then you need to go. You will be glad that you did. It is very good.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Apr 8 - Gainsville, Tx Medal of Honor Parade.**  
Call 940-736-4962 if interested. SCV's parade # is 42.

**Apr 18 - April Meeting**

**May 7 - Jefferson Davis Highway Marker re-dedication/dedication. 2 pm at intersection of Hunter Road & FM 1102 in Hunter, Texas** for info contact Eva Long (512) 689-7915 or email her at [elong1955@gmail.com](mailto:elong1955@gmail.com)

**May 16 - May meeting**

**May 19-20 Ft. Lancaster Western Frontier Days** for info, [www.visitfortlancaster.com](http://www.visitfortlancaster.com) or [www.facebook.com/fortlancaster](http://www.facebook.com/fortlancaster)

**June 2-4 Tex. Div SCV 2017 Reunion at the Radisson Hotel, Ft. Worth North-Fossil Creek**

**June 20 - June meeting**

**July 18 - July meeting**



This flag flies in honor and memory of over 1,000 Confederate veterans from Anderson County who marched off to war, one third of whom never returned, and the over 500 Confederate veterans from all across the South who are buried in this county. They fought for liberty and independence from a tyrannical and oppressive government. Provided by the John H. Reagan Camp #2156, Sons of Confederate Veterans. [www.reaganscvcamp.org](http://www.reaganscvcamp.org)

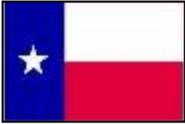
Above: Reagan Camp's battle flag and sign displayed proudly at intersection of FM 315 and Anderson Cty Rd 448, ten miles north of Palestine.

“NOTHING FILLS ME WITH DEEPER SADNESS THAN TO SEE A SOUTHERN MAN APOLOGIZING FOR THE DEFENSE WE MADE OF OUR INHERITANCE. OUR CAUSE WAS SO JUST, SO SACRED, THAT HAD I KNOWN ALL THAT HAS COME TO PASS, HAD I KNOWN WHAT WAS TO BE INFLICTED UPON ME, ALL THAT MY COUNTRY WAS TO SUFFER, ALL THAT OUR POSTERITY WAS TO ENDURE, I WOULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN.”

-PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS-

“DUTY IS THE MOST SUBLIME WORD IN OUR LANGUAGE. DO YOUR DUTY IN ALL THINGS. YOU CANNOT DO MORE. YOU SHOULD NEVER WISH TO DO LESS.”

-GENERAL  
ROBERT E. LEE-



**THIS ARTICLE WAS TAKEN FROM FACEBOOK  
CONFEDERATE IMAGES  
POSTED BY ROBERT ANDERSON**



A letter to President Eisenhower and his response about having a portrait of Robert E Lee in the oval office from 1960

..“Dear Mr. President:

“At the Republican Convention I heard you mention that you have the pictures of four (4) great Americans in your office, and that included in these is a picture of Robert E. Lee.

“I do not understand how any American can include Robert E. Lee as a person to be emulated, and why the President of the United States of America should do so is certainly beyond me.

“The most outstanding thing that Robert E. Lee did was to devote his best efforts to the destruction of the United States Government, and I am sure that you do not say that a person who tries to destroy our Government is worthy of being hailed as one of our heroes.

“Will you please tell me just why you hold him in such high esteem?

Sincerely yours,

“Leon W. Scott”

Eisenhower's response, written on White House letterhead on August 9, 1960 reads as follows: . . . .

Dear Dr. Scott:

Respecting your August 1 inquiry calling attention to my often expressed admiration for General Robert E. Lee, I would say, first, that we need to understand that at the time of the War Between the States the issue of Secession had remained unresolved for more than 70 years. Men of probity, character, public standing and unquestioned loyalty, both North and South, had disagreed over this issue as a matter of principle from the day our Constitution was adopted.

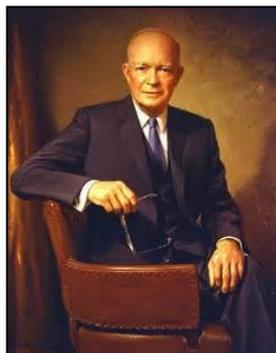
General Robert E. Lee was, in my estimation, one of the supremely gifted men produced by our Nation. He believed unswervingly in the Constitutional validity of his cause which until 1865 was still an arguable question in America; he was thoughtful yet demanding of his officers and men, forbearing with captured enemies but ingenious, unrelenting and personally courageous in battle, and never disheartened by a reverse or obstacle. Through all his many trials, he remained selfless almost to a fault and unflinching in his belief in God. Taken altogether, he was noble as a leader and as a man, and unsullied as I read the pages of our history.

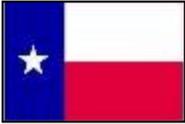
From deep conviction I simply say this: a nation of men of Lee's calibre would be unconquerable in spirit and soul. Indeed, to the degree that present-day American youth will strive to emulate his rare qualities, including his devotion to this land as revealed in his painstaking efforts to help heal the nation's wounds once the bitter struggle was over, we, in our own time of danger in a divided world, will be strengthened and our love of freedom sustained .

Such are the reasons that I proudly display the picture of this great American on my office wall.

Sincerely,

Dwight D. Eisenhower

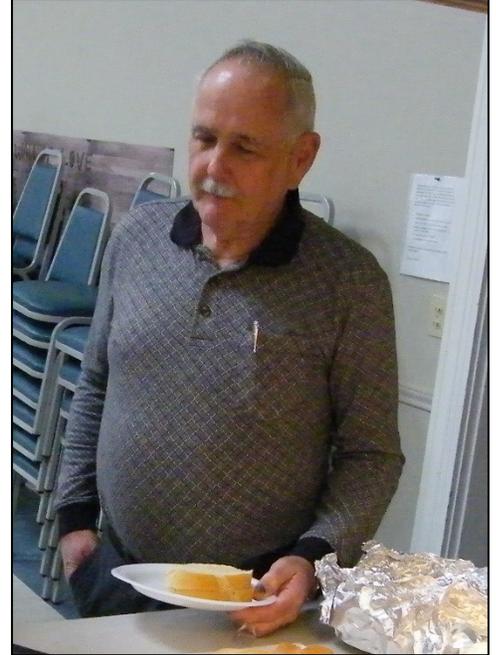




## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156 MARCH MEETING



We had 14 in attendance at the March meeting. Richard Thornton supplied the main course for the entire camp. He brought two delicious kinds of chicken spaghetti and bread. We had several men who brought various desserts and Blue Bell ice cream. The food was delicious, and we would like to say "Thank You" to Richard Thornton for bringing the March meal. If you missed it, you missed out!!! This was a good meeting with a great meal and a great historical program that was presented by Gary Williams on his great-grandfather, James A. Richey who fought in the 18th Georgia Infantry, Company A.



At right: Visitor Bonnie Woolverton visits with Martin Lawrence and Andrew Harris while waiting on the historical program to start.

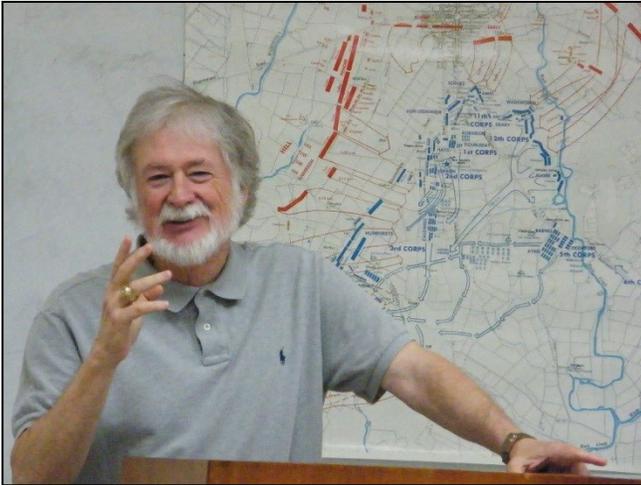


At right: Chaplain David Franklin helps his grandson Cameron Franklin with his math homework while waiting on the historical program to start. Cameron comes to many of the camp meetings. He is fortunate to have a grandfather who teaches him the truth about the War Between the States.





**MARCH HISTORICAL PROGRAM**  
**JAMES A. RICHEY**  
**18TH GEORGIA INFANTRY COMPANY A**  
**GARY WILLIAMS' GREAT-GRANDFATHER**



Gary Williams, Reagan Camp Historian, Charter member, and past 1st Lt. Cmdr., presented the Reagan Camp with an excellent historical program on his Great-grandfather, James A. Richey. Gary's ancestor was in the 18th Georgian Infantry Co. A. which fought in some of the deadliest battles of the war between the states. Richey's battles included 2nd Bull Run - Fredericksburg; Antietam - Chancellorsville; Gettysburg - McLaws Division; Chickamauga; The Wilderness; Spotsylvania Courthouse and the battle of Cold Harbor before being captured and sent to Elmira NY POW Camp for the duration of the war. After he was released, he made his way to Texas where he was a member of the John H. Reagan UCV Camp #44 in Palestine.

What would the odds be to have participated in all of those battles and lived? They would be very, very slim for sure. As Gary said, it must have been God who allowed Richey to live when so many others were killed. After the war, he attended several UCV Reunions. Gary is fortunate enough to have had James A. Richey's UCV Reunion medals passed down to him, and he brought them to the meeting and passed them around for everyone to see! What a wonderful bonus to those of us who were there!!!! Richey made it to several UCV Reunions including the one in New Orleans in 1906. Does that ring a bell? He was there to hear Stephen D. Lee give the charge!!! See the photo below left of the 1906 UCV reunion medal. Marc Robinson said it well when he said, "What an honor it was to hold it!"



Photo by Marc Robinson

Left: UCV medal from 1906 reunion in New Orleans where Stephen D. Lee gave the charge.

Right: James Richey's UCV medals from reunions he attended.

Both pictures courtesy of Marc Robinson



Photo by Marc Robinson

It was amazing to be able to hear the detailed descriptions of the battles that Gary's great-grandfather participated in. He gave an awesome program on some of the great battles of the war, and his great-grandfather was there!!! If you missed this program, you really missed out. Beginning on the next page are a few excerpts from Gary's program.



**MARCH HISTORICAL PROGRAM**  
**JAMES A. RICHEY**  
**18TH GEORGIA INFANTRY COMPANY A**  
**GARY WILLIAMS' GREAT-GRANDFATHER**



James A. Richey fought in the 18th Georgia Infantry, Company A, under General William Tatum Wofford.

Wofford had served as a Captain in the Mexican War in the Georgia Mounted Volunteers. He had a diverse background as he was a planter, a state legislator, and lawyer, and a newspaper editor. Wofford voted against secession, but once Georgia voted to secede, he offered his services to the Confederate States Army. He was assigned to Hood's Brigade during the Peninsula Campaign. He fought the 2nd Battle of Bull Run and the Battle of Antietam as Captain and Colonel of the 18th Georgia. He was promoted to Brig. General in January 1863 and led a brigade at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg where Wofford's Brigade followed William Barksdale's Mississippi Brigade in the assault through the Peach Orchard and then drove troops out of the Wheatfield. They advanced until they had to stop short of a new Union line near the base of Little Round Top. Wofford and his men also fought at Chickamauga; The Wilderness; Spotsylvania Courthouse and the battle of Cold Harbor before James A. Richey was captured and sent to a Union POW prison.

The night that the Texas Brigade and Wofford's men moved on to a picturesque village named Sharpsburg, little did anyone know that it would be the bloodiest day in American history. The book "One of the Most Daring Men", which details the life of confederate General William Tatum Wofford gives an account of what took place with James A. Richey and those he fought with at Antietam.

*Back in the West Woods, behind the church, details were sent to get rations from the division wagons. The men "had not partaken of any food since morning and were now anxiously waiting for it to come." But not that day, John Stevens of the Fifth Texas remembered:*

*But daylight came too soon, the smoke of our fires proving a good mark to indicate to the Federals where our lines were. They began to shell us with their canister shot and at the same time to advance their lines. The falling shot raked our bread pans, skillets, and fires right and left, putting a complete check to all preparations for the much needed breakfast.*

*Hood led his men forward. The soldiers, mad at having to leave their unfinished meal, swarmed from around the church, climbed the fences on either side of the Pike, men dropping at ever step, and spread out into the clover. Lawton's survivors streamed from the cornfield ahead, followed by the exultant enemy. Wofford and Law deployed their brigades quickly amid the backwash of battle.*

*Rufus Dawes, a soldier in the 6th Wisconsin, was among the pursuing Yankees. He never forgot the next few minutes; "A long steady line of rebel gray, unbroken by the fugitives who fly before us, comes sweeping down through the woods around the church. They raise the yell and fire. It is like a scythe running through our line." Hood ordered, "Fix bayonets! Charge!" The Rebel Yell rose over the din; the enemy, stunned by the sudden appearance of reinforcements and the devastating volley of musketry, fell back at a run, the Rebels after them. Welch wrote, "like a hurricane we swept over the land." The Federals were chased back into the tall corn, the stalks shattered now by the bloody reapers of modern warfare.*

*...Private Welch wrote "I never saw rain fall faster than the bullets did around us." Sandie Pendleton who had ridden forward at Jackson's behest to find Hood, remembered: "Such a storm of balls I never conceived it possible for men to live through. Show and shell shrieking and crashing, canister and bullets whistling and hissing most fiendlike through the air until you could almost see them..."*

When the book speaks about the 18th Georgian fighting at Gettysburg, the book tells of how they charged with Barksdale toward the orchard.

*... "As Kershaw's men linked up with Wofford's right, the Georgians and South Carolinians swept over the stony hill, or bluff, routing the enemy, and, cheering and yelling as they loaded and fired, debauched from the woods upon the flank of the Federal units in the Wheatfield. "The enemy," wrote Kershaw, "gave way at Wofford's advance, and, with him, the whole of my left wing advanced to the charge, sweeping the enemy before them, without a moment's stand, across the stone wall, beyond the Wheatfield, up to the foot of the mountain."....*

- Continued on next page -



**MARCH HISTORICAL PROGRAM**  
**JAMES A. RICHEY**  
**18TH GEORGIA INFANTRY COMPANY A**  
**GARY WILLIAMS' GREAT-GRANDFATHER**



Private James A. Richey

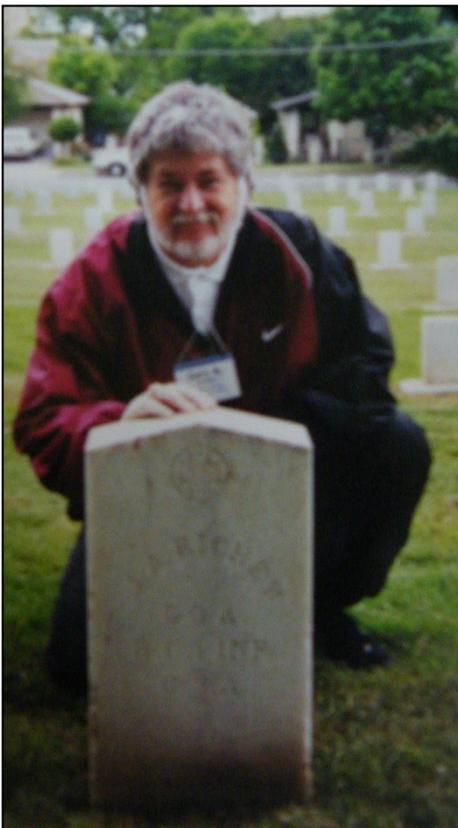
As the book continues to speak of Gettysburg and the 18th Georgian, in which James A. Richey fought, it states:

*“Even as they fought for their lives, the Yankees marveled at the appearance of the Georgians: “They were moving obliquely, loading and firing with deliberation as they advanced, begrimed and dirty-looking fellows, in all sorts of garb, some without hats, others without coats, none apparently in the real dress or uniform of a soldier.” appearances can be deceptive, however, for the Federals admitted that the Georgians gave them all they could ask for and more. “The Confederates appeared to have the devil in them,” said another.*

*All along Wofford’s front, the Federal line crumbled. In the Wheatfield, the well-directed volleys of his men shattered the Blue ranks, making a Tophet of the trampled grain.*

The day after the 18th Georgia had made a big advance at Gettysburg, Lee asked Wofford about the fight of the day before and the prospects of renewing it. *“I told him,” wrote Wofford later, “That the afternoon before, I nearly reached the crest. He asked if I could go there now. I replied “No, General, I think not.” Lee asked quickly, “Why not?” Because,” I said, “General, the enemy have had all night to intrench and reinforce. I had been pursuing a broken enemy and the situation was now very different.”*

Gary told several recounts about James A. Richey’s battles. It was a great program. Gary ended his program by telling everyone that he is extremely proud of his Confederate ancestors blood that runs through his veins. That is how Confederate descendants should feel. Wouldn’t it be great if all descendants of Confederates would be so proud?



Picture to left:  
Gary Williams  
kneels behind the  
Confederate  
Marker at the  
grave of his Great  
-Grandfather  
James A. Richey.

Picture to right:  
Gary points to a  
spot on the map  
of Gettysburg  
while explaining  
the advance of the  
18th Georgia  
Infantry in which  
his great-  
grandfather  
fought.





## MARCH PORTRAITS OF CONFLICT (PART 4)

### Rare and Original Images from the War Between the States



CONTRIBUTED BY REAGAN CAMP HISTORIAN ANDREW HARRIS

The historical program presented at the October 2016 meeting of the John H. Reagan Camp featured eleven original photographs from Andrew Harris' Civil War artifact collection. This month we will continue with Part 4 of a series of articles highlighting each of the photographs in detail.



*1/6<sup>th</sup> Plate Ambrotype; Unidentified Confederate 1st Lt.  
by Photographer C. R. Rees.*

**Southern Officer:** Last month's article introduced an image of a Confederate artilleryman that was taken by photographer Charles R. Rees of Richmond, Virginia. Rees was an extremely skilled photographer and has become notable for documenting the Southern Confederacy through his work with the camera. This month we offer another rare example of a Rees photograph. Pictured here is a fine 1/6th plate ambrotype of a proud-looking Confederate officer.

As is the case with many surviving photos of the period, this officer's name has been lost to history and his identity is unknown. However, a small note tucked into the back of the case that accompanies the photographic plate states that the picture was found in an old home in Richmond, Virginia. Based on this information, it is believed that the soldier was most likely himself a Virginian, and probably served as a company grade officer in the ranks of General Robert E. Lee's Army.

The two horizontal bars on the collar of his uniform indicate that he holds the rank of 1st Lieutenant. He wears a finely tailored

gray, double breasted frock coat with two rows of buttons each of which has been accented with a touch of gold gilt along with the braid on the sleeves and collar of his coat. He is also holding his kepi in his lap, which is covered with a shiny, black oil-cloth cover.

His appearance bears a strong resemblance to so many of the iconic images of the Confederate heroes that we are all familiar with. Perhaps he was present at the stunning victory at Second Manassas, or trod the dusty roads of Jackson's flank attack at Chancellorsville. Maybe he survived the horror of Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg, or witnessed the bitter defeat at Appomattox. Maybe he lived to see it all, or perhaps he died along the way in the defense of Dixie. If only he could tell us...

This photograph was previously part of the late William A. "Bill" Turner's collection, and is published on page 211 of the pioneer collector's popular 1983 book, *"Even More Confederate Faces"*.



## MARCH PORTRAITS OF CONFLICT (PART 4)

### Rare and Original Images from the War Between the States



CONTRIBUTED BY REAGAN CAMP HISTORIAN ANDREW HARRIS

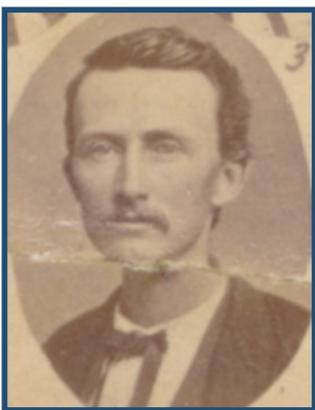
**Battle of Franklin:** The next photograph in the series is a 1/6<sup>th</sup> plate tintype of two Union officers. The photograph came out of the estate of a descendant of Major Harrison M. Spain, who is identified as the man on the right side of the image. The captain on the left is unidentified. Major Spain served in the 80th Indiana infantry, a hard-fought Western Theater unit. Close examination of the photograph reveals the numeral “80” in the center of the bugle insignia on his forage cap. Spain enlisted as a Captain in the 80th Indiana in 1862, and by the end of the war had risen to 3rd in command of the regiment with the rank of Major. He fought in several notable engagements including Perryville, Kentucky; Resaca, Georgia; Franklin, Tennessee and others.

There is a particularly interesting story involving Maj. Spain that occurred at the Battle at Franklin, in November 1864. Here the Federals were on the receiving end of the largest frontal assault of the war, made by the



*1/6<sup>th</sup> Plate Tintype; Unknown Captain (Left) & Major Harrison M. Spain, 80<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry (Right).*

Confederate Army of Tennessee under John Bell Hood. The result was nothing less than wholesale carnage; in a matter of just a few hours there were approximately 10,000 casualties along a battle line that stretched only a couple hundred yards in length. Spain, with the 80th Indiana, was on the far right of the Union line. This sector of the battlefield saw a rare occurrence in Civil War combat – a night assault - made by Johnson’s division of Stephen Dill Lee’s Corps. In the final phases of the battle, the Confederates attacked the Union lines in pitch darkness, bearing lit torches at the ends of their advancing battle lines. The Yankees from Spain’s position described a terrifyingly surreal experience to be on the receiving end of the attack, with hordes of Rebels literally coming out of the shadows marked by their fiery torches.



*William W. Thomson; Photo as member of the Mississippi State Legislature in 1874-1875.*

It was here, in the midst of the night attack, that Spain captured a Confederate officer who had made it all the way to the Union breastworks. The Southerner was Captain William Wirt Thomson, of the 24th Mississippi infantry. According to a biography, published in the late 1800’s, Spain demanded that the Captain turn over his foot officer’s sword, but Thomson replied that the sword was a gift from the men of his company and that he would rather leave his dead body upon the field than surrender it. Spain insisted but promised that he would returned the sword should both of them survive the war.

Several months passed; the war ended and both men did indeed survive. Captain Thomson was elected to the Mississippi Legislature and wrote the Adjutant-General of Indiana for Major Spain's address. Spain and Thomson struck up a correspondence, and in the Spring of 1874, the promise made on the battlefield was fulfilled – Major Spain returned the good Captain’s sword.

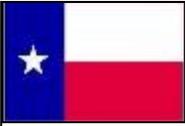


## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP CIVIL WAR CALENDAR



### MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 1864 Kilpatrick's raid goes awry as troops and horses succumb to fatigue.	2 1863: Much of East Coast digs out after crippling snowstorm.	3 1865: 38th U.S. Congress meets for the final time to outline aid for displaced African Americans.	4 1865: Lincoln delivers his greatest speech, a 750 word second inaugural address.
5 1864: CSA government demands half of all space on blockade runners.	6 1865: Clara Baron attends Lincoln's inaugural ball at the White House	7 1862: Largest battle west of the Mississippi continues at Pea Ridge, Ar.	8 1865: Sherman enters North Carolina, having advanced some 350 miles through the Deep South.	9 1862: Modern naval warfare begins as ironclads clash off Virginia coast.	10 1809: U.S. Navy Admiral David Porter is born.	11 1861: Confederate Congress adopts constitution that specifically allows slavery.
12 1864: Admiral Porter leads a fleet of 13 ironclads into the Red River.	13 1865: President Davis signs law allowing African Americans to carry arms for Confederacy.	14 1865: African Americans seen in Richmond for the first time in soldier uniforms.	15 1866 Texas repeals the actions of the Secessionist Convention	16 1861: Robert E. Lee promoted by Lincoln to colonel of U.S. 1st Cavalry.	17 1862: McClellan's army begins its deployment to Fort Monroe on Virginia's Peninsula.	18 1861: In Texas, war hero Sam Houston refuses to take oath of allegiance to Confederacy.
19 1865: Heavy fighting erupts around Raleigh, NC, near the Harper House.	20 1865: Battle of Bentonville continues to rage outside Raleigh.	21, 1864 Abe Lincoln signs legislation allowing Nevada & Colorado to become states even though they don't meet requirements	22 1864: After a wet snowfall, Confederate soldiers enjoy a huge snowball fight in Richmond.	23 1862: Stonewall Jackson opens famous Valley Campaign outside Winchester, Va.	24 1863: The last attempt to take Vicksburg, Ms, by water fails.	25 1865: In his last assault of the war, Lee attacks Union lines at Fort Stedman, Va.
26 1863: West Virginia voters approve gradual emancipation of slaves.	27 1865: Lincoln meets with Grant, Sherman, and Porter on riverboat to discuss war's ending.	28 1862: Battle of Glorieta Pass rages near Santa Fe, New Mexico	29, 1861 Mississippi ratifies the Confederate Constitution	30 1865: In pouring rain, U.S. forces probe Lee's fatally overstretched lines.	31 1862: Lincoln meddles with McClellan and recalls some 15,000 troops to defend Washington.	



## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN MARCH

From the Texas State Historical Association



March 1, 1861: Texas accepted as a state by the provisional government of the Confederate States of America.

March 2, 1861: Texas Secessionist Convention reconvenes.

March 5, 1861: Texas secessionist convention accepts Confederate statehood.

March 11, 1846: U.S. Troops move into disputed land between Nueces and Rio Grande Rivers.

March 28, 1864: Civil War guerrilla leader William Quantrill was arrested by Confederate forces in Bonham, Texas. The Ohio native, wanted for murder in Utah by 1860, collected a group of renegades in the Kansas-Missouri area at the beginning of the Civil War. He fought with Confederate forces at the battle of Wilson's Creek in August 1861 but soon thereafter began irregular independent operations. Quantrill and his band attacked Union camps, patrols, and settlements. While Union authorities declared him and outlaw, Quantrill eventually held the rank of colonel in the Confederate forces. After his infamous sack of Lawrence, Kansas, and the massacre of Union prisoners at Baxter Springs, Quantrill and his men fled to Texas in October of 1863. There he quarreled with his associate, William "Bloody Bill" Anderson, and his band preyed on the citizens of Fannin and Grayson counties. Acts of violence proliferated so much that regular confederate forces had to be assigned to protect residents from the activities of the irregular Confederate forces, and Gen. Henry McCulloch determined to rid North Texas of Quantrill's influence. On March 28, 1864, when Quantrill appeared at Bonham as requested, McCulloch had him arrested on the charge of ordering the murder of a Confederate major. Quantrill escaped that day and returned to his camp near Sherman, pursued by more than 300 state and Confederate troops. He and his men crossed the Red River into Indian Territory. Except for a brief return in May, Quantrill's activities in Texas were at an end. Quantrill was killed by Union forces at the very end of the war.

March 31, 1861: General John Bankhead Magruder reassigned from Arkansas to Texas.





## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP

### CSA TEXAS GENERAL OF THE MONTH

#### HENRY EUSTACE McCULLOCH



**Henry Eustace McCulloch** (December 6, 1816 - March 12, 1895) was a soldier in the Texas Revolution, a Texas Ranger, and a brigadier general in the army of the Confederate States during the American Civil War.

**Early Life** - McCulloch was born in Rutherford County, Tennessee, one of twelve children of Alexander McCulloch and Frances Fisher LeNoir. His father, a Yale University graduate, was an officer on Brig. Gen. John Coffee's staff during the Creek War of 1813 and 1814 in Alabama; His mother was a daughter of a prominent Virginia Planter. The family had been wealthy, politically influential, and socially prominent in North Carolina before the American Revolution, but Alexander McCulloch had wasted much of his inheritance and was unable ever to educate his sons. (Two of Henry McCulloch's older brothers briefly attended a

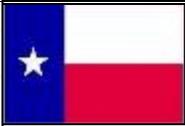
School in Tennessee taught by their neighbor, Sam Houston.) After several moves, the family settled at Dyersburg, where one of their closest neighbors was David Crockett - a great influence on both McCulloch and his older brother, Ben McCulloch, who also would become a Confederate brigadier general.

**Texas Career** - Henry McCulloch shared in his brother Ben's economic attempts in the 1830s, including transporting goods by raft on the Mississippi, once all the way to New Orleans. When Davy Crockett went to Texas in 1835, Henry McCulloch and his brother made plans to meet Crockett's Tennessee Boys at Nacogdoches on Christmas Day. However, Ben contracted measles and was bedridden for several weeks. They thus arrived too late at Nacogdoches and pressed on toward San Antonio. Luckily, the delay kept them from arriving until the Alamo had fallen and its defenders all been killed.

In 1838, both Henry and Ben McCulloch were making a living as surveyors. They also made a reputation as Indian fighters. Both took part in the Battle Creek Fight against the Comanche Indians in Navarro County, also known as "The Surveyors' Fight". In 1839, Henry McCulloch was on the muster roll of Capt. Matthew Caldwell's "Gonzales Rangers". In 1839, Henry McCulloch was on the muster roll of Capt. Matthew Caldwell's contentious campaign that included assorted slanders between the candidates. As a result, Ben fought a rifle duel with his opponent, Reuben Ross and received a permanently wound in his left arm. The matter was considered closed but it flared up again the following year, this time involving Henry, who killed Ross with a pistol.

On August 20, 1840, McCulloch married Jane Isabella Ashby, daughter of John Miller Ashby and Mary Harris Garnett of Kentucky, who had been early settlers in the DeWitt Colony, which was centered on Gonzales. They had twelve children, most of whom remained in Texas.

Later in 1840, McCulloch took part in the Battle of Plum Creek, acting as a scout against the Comanches and being wounded. When a Mexican raiding force under Gen. Adrian Woll invested San Antonio in September 1842, he served as First Lieutenant of a company of volunteers from Seguin. He again operated as a scout, including infiltrating enemy lines, and commanded a spy company at the Battle of Salado Creek. With his brother, Ben, he subsequently took part in the failed Somervell expedition and both men were ordered to leave shortly before most of the Texans were captured at Mier, Mexico in Tamaulipas, December 25, 1842.



**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP**  
**CSA TEXAS GENERAL OF THE MONTH**  
**HENRY EUSTACE McCULLOCH PG 2**



He was elected sheriff of Gonzales in 1843 and also opened a mercantile business there. The following year, he moved his family permanently to Seguin.

There are several letters written in the 1890s (now in the possession of the Texas State Library) in which McCulloch describes his (and his brother's) activities during the Texas Revolution and under the Republic.

In December 1847, McCulloch was in command of a Ranger company in Burnet County and established what became Fort Croghan. When the War with Mexico began, he took command of a volunteer company patrolling the same area of the western frontier against Indian raids. He continued this service after the war as captain of a company of Texas Mounted Volunteers out of Fort Murrill, and also operating a Ranger post in Kimble County.

He served in both houses of the Texas Legislature from Guadalupe County, being elected to the House of Representatives in 1853 and the Senate in 1855. Among other subjects, he introduced bills to regulate the use by slave-owners of "manager slaves" and to acquire the Alamo as a state monument. He then received an appointment as U.S. marshal from President Buchanan for the eastern district of Texas, and was a delegate from Guadalupe County to the Texas secession convention in January 1861. {His brother Ben had been 1852 US Marshal for the eastern District of Texas}

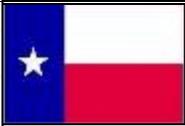
Civil War - A few days after the convention voted for secession from the union on February 1, 1861 (though before the necessary referendum), the Texas Committee of Public Safety established a Provisional Army, in which McCulloch received a commission as colonel. On March 4, he was appointed commander of the 1st Texas Cavalry Regiment, also known (especially to its officers) as the 1st Texas Mounted Rifles. The unit was recruited from several counties in central Texas to serve for twelve months and was the first Texas cavalry regiment to enter Confederate service. Its mission was to maintain a line of patrol from the Red River southwest to the junction of the Concho and North Concho Rivers, a point near present-day San Angelo.

McCulloch was acknowledged by his superiors and others for his emphasis on precise discipline and gentlemanly conduct in his regiment. His training methods included complex cavalry and infantry maneuvers as well as sabre-fighting and the proper care of horses and equipment. Many Texas units maintained only lax rules of propriety and organization, but the 1st Texas remained a cohesive and loyal unit, disbanding only under the proper orders.

After receiving word of the action at Fort Sumter, McCulloch moved five companies to confront any federal troops remaining in Texas who had not yet embarked at the port of Indianola, but enroute he received orders from Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn to intercept a federal force northwest of San Antonio. On May 9, McCulloch's troops, numbering some 1,300, captured the 8th U.S. Infantry near San Lucas Springs.

Late in June, McCulloch crossed the Red River with Maj. Edward Burluson to ensure the friendliness (or at least the neutrality) of the Wichita and Caddo Indians, following this with a warning that any raids across the river into Texas would bring retaliation—and over the following year, there were in fact a number of engagements between elements of the 1st Texas and Indian raiding parties.

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**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP**  
**CSA TEXAS GENERAL OF THE MONTH**  
**HENRY EUSTACE McCULLOCH PG 2**



The success of the Texas troops in suppressing these raids is shown in the fact that the number of raids actually decreased during 1861 and 1862 from the numbers reported in previous years.

In September 1861, McCulloch, now a brigadier general, assumed temporary command of the Department of Texas until the arrival of Brig. Gen. Paul O. Hebert, and in December was named to command the new Western Military District, comprising that part of the state west and south of San Antonio. Early the next year, he was ordered to assume co-command of Texas State Troops being sent to Arkansas.

On September 6, 1862, following the death near Little Rock of his co-commander, Allison Nelson of Waco, McCulloch took command of the new Texas Division and organized it into four brigades, ultimately taking command of the Third Brigade himself while the division as a whole was under the command of Maj. Gen. John G. Walker. The division was attached to the District of Arkansas, Trans-Mississippi Department, and by April 1863 it was in Louisiana, where it took part in the Red River Campaign, the Camden Expedition, and the Battle of Milliken's Bend, which was an early phase of the Vicksburg Campaign. In July 1863, the division arrived in Alexandria, Louisiana, where McCulloch was replaced by Col. George Fournoy. McCulloch was approached as a candidate for governor of Texas late that summer, but declined in order to remain on active service.

In 1864 and 1865, McCulloch was again in north Texas and in charge of the Western Sub-District of Texas (the entire District now being under the command of Maj. Gen. John B. Magruder), where he was active not only in dealing with Indian raids but in pursuing and arresting Confederate deserters and bushwhackers. At the end of the war, on his return to his home in Seguin, he found it necessary to travel with an armed escort because of threats against his life by deserters.

In 1874, he was active early in the administration of Gov. Richard Coke, especially in helping to physically remove Edmund J. Davis from the executive offices. In 1876, as a reward for his services to Texas, he was appointed superintendent of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum (later the Texas School for the Deaf) in Austin. Though a respected military commander, he proved an inept civil administrator and a legislative investigation forced him to resign his position in 1879; he was succeeded in that office by Col. John S. "Rip" Ford, his old commander in the Rangers.

The retired general apparently enjoyed his retirement, frequently receiving distinguished visitors in his home, giving interviews and engaging in correspondence with inquiring historical writers, and was in regular demand as a speaker at July Fourth festivities throughout central Texas. He was also a trustee in the local Methodist Church. Henry E. McCulloch died March 12, 1895 at Rockport, Texas and was buried in San Geronimo Cemetery in Seguin. He received a full masonic funeral, having been an active freemason after the War in the Guadalupe County lodge. His widow, Jane Ashby McCulloch died in 1896.

Camp Henry McCulloch was located at "Nuner's Mott", about four miles north of the present city limits of Victoria in Victoria County. It was the training site in the fall of 1861 for several infantry and cavalry companies of the 6th Texas Infantry Regiment, CSA (at the time when McCulloch was interim commander of the Department of Texas). A Texas state historical marker was erected at the site.

The Gen. Henry E. McCulloch Camp #843 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Texas Division, Central Texas Brigade, is located in Brownwood, Texas.



## TEXAS STATE SCV CHAPLAIN'S ARTICLE



### FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

In 1776, my Third-Great Grandfather, 16 year-old Southern farm boy from South Carolina, Samuel Wilson, (6th South Carolina Reg't), and my Fifth-Great Grandfather, Col. Burwell Mooring of North Carolina, joined many of your "Grandfathers" to come together to build a wall. It would be a wall forged in faith. It would be a wall forged specifically in the Judeo-Christian faith. It would be a wall uniquely formed as a Constitutional-Republic form of government, a wall forged in limited government, state's rights, and We the People. They would fight and struggle through blood, sweat and tears to build that wall. In their hearts their convictions stood strong. They knew that their descendants, like the ones standing here today, would faithfully maintain that wall and not let it crumble.

They were extraordinary people, and their Southern children and grandchildren were extraordinary people as well. They fought to keep established the walls that their parents and grandparents established with their own blood.

Our true history may be ignored, and our true history may be reinterpreted, and our true history may be revised, but the true historical evidence remains unchanged. Their DNA flows through our veins, and we cannot afford to let the walls crumble.

Samuel Adams said, "While the people are virtuous, they cannot be subdued, but, when once they lose their virtue, they will be ready to surrender their liberties."

When "we" surrender our liberties, the walls that have established us as a people will crumble. Our walls identify who we are. Our descendants need to know why our walls stand. It will cost us blood, sweat, and tears as well.

In the Colonial days, great men of the cloth (e.g.) Johnathan Edwards and George Whitefield, would lead outside rallies gathering crowds up to 20,000 people at a time. As they stated, "A heritage of faith united the Continental Congress, grounded in the law and the prophets."

Great men like General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, who stood like a wall in battle, and General Robert E. Lee, who maintained a wall of integrity and godly principles, have passed on to us a Southern heritage forged in faith. One soldier said, "We went through sufferings and privations that the present generation cannot realize."

Chippie the parakeet never saw it coming. Chippie had been sitting on his perch singing away when his human Mom started cleaning his cage. She was using the nozzle from the vacuum cleaner to get out his feathers from the bottom of the cage, when the phone rang. Not thinking, she left the vacuum cleaner on and the nozzle in the cage when she turned to answer the phone. All of a sudden, a traumatic event happened to poor little Chippie! He was sucked into the vacuum cleaner, down through the hose and into the bag. He was alive, but he was stunned. It was horrible. His little heart is racing a hundred miles an hour. He is covered in dust. His human Mom was in a panic. She dropped the phone and fought frantically to get Chippie out of the vacuum bag. When she did, she grabbed him and took him to the sink. She turned on the faucet full blast with cold water. To make matters worse, she grabbed her hair dryer and blasted away at the wet feathers. Consequently, Chippie does not sing much any more. That's sad.

The Good Book says, "We are afflicted on all sides, but not crushed. We are perplexed, but not in despair. We are persecuted but never deserted. We are struck down, but not destroyed."

With the help of God, we will continue to maintain the wall that our ancestors gave us, and we will never quit, lay down, or die. Chippie the parakeet lost his song. He doesn't sing anymore. We have faced trauma as well, but our song is **"Oh, I Wish I Was In the Land of Cotton."** We will not stop singing OUR song, and with the help of God, we will maintain our ancestor's walls.

Reverend M. Don Majors, Pastor  
Texas Division Chaplain  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

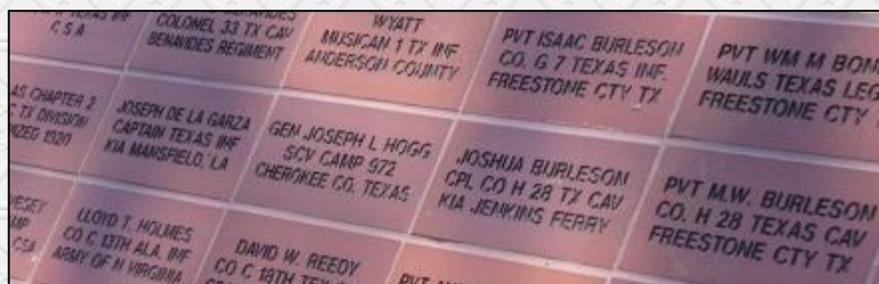
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## CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION



The Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza had the official opening and dedication on April 13, 2013. It is a beautiful Memorial to the Confederate Veterans. It is open for visitors 365 days per year. The sidewalks are lined with pavers that are engraved with information about brave men who fought for the Confederacy. There is still room along the sidewalks for you to purchase a brick paver in the name of your confederate ancestor. This will ensure that your ancestor's service to the confederacy will not be forgotten, but will be remembered for years to come. If you would like to make a donation for a paver, please contact Dan Dyer at E-mail: [danieldyer497@yahoo.com](mailto:danieldyer497@yahoo.com) or Phone (903) 391-2224



Would you like to honor you ancestor? There is still room in the plaza for you to have a paver with your ancestor's name and military information. You can also acquire a paver in the name of your SCV Camp.



## JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156

c/o Dan Dyer, Adjutant/Treasurer  
Palestine, Texas 75802  
E-mail: danielyer497@yahoo.com  
Phone: (903) 391-2224

Charles Steen, Commander  
Palestine, Texas  
E-mail: clsteen430@yahoo.com  
Phone: 903-948-8275

Dwight Franklin, Chaplain/Newsletter  
Editor: dwightfranklin1@yahoo.com

Please visit our website @  
[www.reaganscvcamp.org](http://www.reaganscvcamp.org)

The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the *Second American Revolution*. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built.

Today, the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is preserving the history and legacy of these heroes, so future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved.

Membership in the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either **lineal or collateral** family lines and kinship to a veteran must be **documented genealogically**. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet membership. **Friends of the SCV** memberships are available as well to those who are committed to upholding our charge, but do not have the Confederate ancestry.

## THE CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

*"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."*

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander-in-Chief

United Confederate Veterans

New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



Camp meetings: 3rd Tuesday of Each  
Month - 06:30 PM

Snacks served at each meeting.  
First Christian Church  
113 East Crawford Street  
Palestine, Texas

Turn north on N. Sycamore St. off of  
Spring St. (Hwy 19, 84, & 287)  
travel three blocks, turn right on  
Crawford St., go one block Church is  
on left)